

ABSOLUTE RATING: Average
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Below Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 22.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

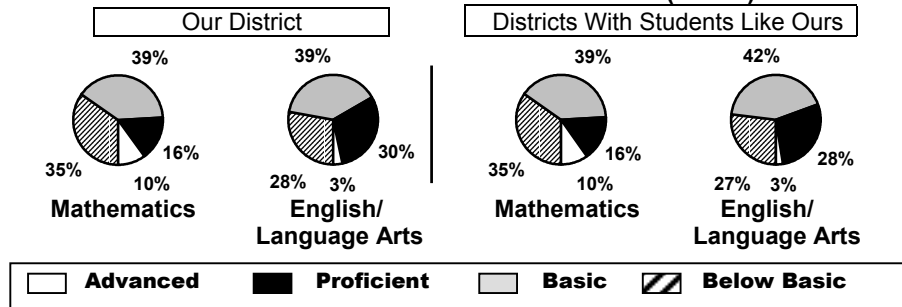
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- **Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- **Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- **Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
All Students	90.5%	19.8%	72.3%	65.3%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	66.1%	3.0%	25.2%	18.3%
Students without disabilities	92.4%	22.3%	77.2%	70%
Gender				
Male	89.4%	21.9%	68.2%	64.6%
Female	90.3%	18.0%	77.4%	66.6%
Ethnic Group				
African-American	85.0%	5.6%	56.9%	50.5%
Hispanic	100.0%	0.0%	74.5%	69.6%
White	92.2%	22.5%	80.9%	73.3%
Other	100.0%	50.0%	N/A	N/A
Lunch Status				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	81.5%	6.4%	60.1%	52.7%
Pay for Lunch	92.9%	24.7%	83.5%	76.7%

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	62.7%	71.2%	69.6%
Passed 2 subtests	20.7%	14.5%	16.9%
Passed 1 subtest	10.9%	8.4%	8.1%
Passed no subtest	5.6%	5.9%	5.4%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	65.1%	68.5%	70.8%
Passed 2 subtests	18.5%	17.0%	16.5%
Passed 1 subtest	9.9%	9.4%	8.1%
Passed no subtest	6.5%	5.1%	4.5%

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	19.8%	46.9%	21.4%
Districts Like Ours	20.2%	53.6%	21.3%

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	501	503	504	518	1005	1021	17.8	17.7	17.9	18.3	18.6	18.6	18.2	18.0	18.2	18.2
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
DISTRICT				
• Dollars per student	\$6,269	N/A	\$6,303	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	91.6%	Down from 93.5%	89.7%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	23.2 to 1	N/A	21.1 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.6%	N/A	0.4%	0.6%
STUDENTS (n=9,606)				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	43.8%	N/A	47.7%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	96.7%	Down from 96.9%	95.8%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	2.2%	N/A	4.9%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	2.1%	N/A	4.4%	4.5%
• Retention rate	6.5%	Down from 6.9%	5.8%	6.0%
TEACHERS (n=635)				
• Professional development days per teacher	6.4 Days	Up from 5	7.4 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	96.1%	Down from 96.6%	95.3%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	55.9%	Down from 57.8%	46.8%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	84.3%	Down from 84.8%	81.9%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	2.4%	Up from 1.8%	2.1%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	91.8%	Down from 93.6%	90.6%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$38,068	Up 4.2%	\$38,193	\$37,143

DISTRICT FACTS

DISTRICT				
• Annual dropout rate	4.9%	Up from 3.2%	3%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	49.9%	N/A	51%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	7.5	N/A	4.8	3.5
• Parent conferences	78.7%	N/A	85.6%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	17	Down from 18	15	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	1	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	6.5%	N/A	6.5%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	97.3%	N/A	97.8%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$62,931	Up 5.6%	\$65,301	\$64,098
STUDENTS				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	162	N/A	166	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	16.7%	Down from 22.9%	14.4%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	7.8%	Down from 8.1%	10.5%	10.5%

Kershaw School District
1301 DuBose Ct.
Camden, SC 29020

Grades K-12

Enrollment: 9,606 Students

Superintendent Dr. Ralph A. Cain 803-432-8416

Board Chair Charles B. Baxley 803-438-4200

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Kershaw County School District serves approximately 9,600 students throughout Kershaw County with eleven elementary schools, two middle schools, three high schools, a career and technology education center, and an alternative program. In order to meet our district's mission "...to prepare all students to excel as productive and responsible citizens in a global society....," we are hard at work building a Top 10 school district for Kershaw County.

Our community written Strategic Plan 2005 guides our district and focuses on three objectives: to have every student complete a prescribed course of study to be prepared to enter post-secondary education and to have the skills necessary for gainful employment; to have student achievement which consistently ranks in the Top 10 districts in the state as measured by state required tests; and to have a graduation rate of 90%. We believe that if we accomplish these objectives, we will have a school district that rates in the state's Top 10 and prepares our students to meet the challenges of a global economy.

Thanks to the guidance of our school board; the hard work of our teachers, administrators, support staff, and students; and the support of our parents and community, we are making significant progress toward our goal of being a Top 10 school district. Our school readiness scores (CSAB) in 2000 were the best in the Midlands and number 4 in the state. Also, in 2000, our district's SAT scores were in the state's Top 10. Our 2000 PACT scores reflected significant improvement, and our graduation rate is among the state's highest. In addition, the number of categories on state tests in which our district achieved Top 10 status has increased from 12 in 1998 to 64 in 2000.

During the upcoming school year, we will continue our focus on student achievement and address areas of weakness that may be impeding our progress toward Top 10 in all areas. In addition, our district is currently building three new school facilities, making additions and improvements at several more, and working to organize our schools to create the best instructional opportunities for students. Overall, our district is making great progress on its way to Top 10 status!

Dr. Ralph A. Cain, Superintendent

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

www.myscschools.com